

# Together WE ARE Building Our Red Sea Community



**February 10, 2010**  
**Vol. 2, No. 3**

## BREAKING NEWS

**Kcomm.info** and **ORSC** (Our **Red Sea** Community) newsletter have joined their distribution lists to provide about **480** households with our relevant community information.

Removing your name from our list is not a problem, if you would rather not receive this weekly newsletter (**E/o Monday** = bits and pieces; **E/o Wednesday** = heartier pieces). Just email: [abgwsa1@yahoo.com](mailto:abgwsa1@yahoo.com) (BTW- that is the number 1 not the letter l in front of yahoo).

The Mini-Monday newsletter (next one: **Feb. 15**), distributed in the late evening, features new Tamimi sales and prices.

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### Lina's Café Now Open!

It is located along the Main Campus Spine at Building 2. Their hours of service will be: Saturday to Thursday, from 8am to 5pm; serving hot and cold beverages, sandwiches, salad and desserts.

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**ID Replacement** continues until the **28<sup>th</sup>** of **February**. Your current KAUST ID card will be accepted at all gates until then. If a KAUST ID is lost or stolen please submit form KS004 to the Security ID Office. Their locations and working hours during the Replacement Program are as follows:

Security Head Quarters Building = 8:00 am–10:00 pm, 7 days a week

Student Center Building 18 = 8:00 am – 10:00 pm, 7 days a week

### On the following pages you will find:

- Neighbor news
- News to know
- Travel ideas
- Food/Recipes/Health
- Potpourri



If you want a copy of your own, drop me a note at [abgwsa1@yahoo.com](mailto:abgwsa1@yahoo.com);

If you want me to **stop** sending you the newsletter, drop me a different note.

**REMEMBER:** [kcomm.info](http://kcomm.info) = your wider community resource; and **now** there's a (wiki) community calendar to which you can directly send your events: [kcommcalendar@gmail.com](mailto:kcommcalendar@gmail.com)

If you have an idea for a topic, or if you have information to share, **PLEASE** send me your contact or the information **ASAP**.

**And**, if you would like to help gather information or do some reporting, that too would be **VERY VERY** welcomed. **In fact**, why not put something original together (I'll help you with the English, if needed) about a trip, an experience, a place you want to share with others. **Send it on!**

## NEIGHBOR NEWS:



**Zhang Zhang** comes from a small west-side town in China. His hometown area, though small, is a tourist attraction for the many ancient buildings there.

Coming in late October 2009 to KAUST from **Yale University**, in the US state of Connecticut, Zhang is a **post doc** with already 2 years of experience. He is working in the Plant Stress and Genomics Center here. The typical question to be asked is **why he came** to KAUST. **The answer:** He saw KAUST as a great opportunity to continue his research in bioinformatics and genome sequencing, especially looking deeper into the inner workings of plants in general and the date palm specifically.

When he is not working on sequencing, Zhang Zhang can be found participating in some kind of sport: fishing, tennis, soccer – just about anything physical and active.

Here with his wife, Ang Li, herself a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Zhang has enjoyed meeting the diversity of people at KAUST. He strongly believes that being here in Thuwal, at KAUST, will enrich and broaden his life's experience and be a treasured memory for all time. **MORE about Zhang later!**

### This is **Jelena Bajic**



Though originally **from Belgrade** (Serbia), Jelena moved to KAUST from London, where she lived for about 2 ½ years. She left her job as a property management advisor in the health and safety and environment (HSE) sector.

Arriving **last August**, Jelena has been working hard as an executive secretary for the **Plant Stress and Genomics Center**, though you may have seen her working alongside several other department and Center personnel. Her duties and responsibilities are quite varied and challenging – to say the least!

Jelena's first impression upon arriving at KAUST = "WOW!" =referring to the humidity, the heat, and the appearance, setting and size of KAUST itself. She is excited about being in the neighborhood with close to 70 nationalities around her.

When she isn't working, you might find Jelena enjoying a boat ride where she can snorkel over the beautiful reefs, reading, or traveling to or beyond Jeddah. She admitted to enjoying cooking as well, but says the very reasonable cost of dinner at the Commons diner is a treat that's difficult to pass up.

The following interview was conducted by Eman Muawia Abdulla, co-written with Doreena Chen:



I am Doreena Chen. That's me with my husband Basil and my 13-year-old cat Phookie. I am originally from Malaysia, though I studied and worked in Singapore. I lived in the US for the past 7 years.

**WHY KAUST?:** Basil is working in the CORE Labs and we were ready for another big adventure! We also did not want to miss the chance to live in the Middle East and be part of a new and exciting community here.

**ACTIVITIES:** I go bowling with my friends and attend yoga classes. I am now working part time at the Student Admissions Office. We plan to travel around the region during our holidays- so far we have visited Jordan and loved it.

**WHAT DO YOU MISS?:** I miss my family, of course, and the wonderful Malaysian/Singaporean cuisine. I also miss my dear friends and my home in the US.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT KAUST?:** I like the fact that the community here comprises so many different nationalities yet remains extremely friendly and close-knit. The opportunity to constantly interact with people from all over the world remains the highlight of our stay here.

## News to Know

### Ladies Book Club

Tuesday, Feb. 23rd, 7 - 9 p.m.

### Harbor Library Seminar Room



*This is will be our first monthly meeting. We will share our favorite books and choose titles of both fiction and non-fiction books to read for future discussions. This is going to be a combined effort between both libraries, with rotating meeting locations as well.*

***All KAUST ladies are invited!***



Cathy White Anita Branin

### An OPEN Invitation to the **Community**

The Green Group's next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, February 13**, at the Community Library at 6:00pm in the meeting room on the first floor. Tony Valenzuela, the KAUST Campus Support Director under the Facilities and Community Department, and three graduate students in Environmental Science have been invited, all of whom have given a presentation during WEP about **KAUST's Platinum LEED** certification. They have agreed to come and talk to us about the LEED certification status and concerns about preserving that status, as well as to promote sustainability within the entire KAUST community. Please plan to come and bring a guest. It will be a very informative evening; and, if you missed their recent lecture, you now have another opportunity to hear about the issues that the **Green Group and others** will want to begin getting their arms around.

### KAUST Schools Hosting 2010 SAIKAC U16 Basketball Tournament

*By Tarique AL-Iesa, KAUST Schools Athletic/Activities Director*

**What is SAIKAC?** SAIKAC stands for the Saudi Arabian Inter-Kingdom Activities Conference. KAUST Schools is currently an associate member of the organization, and will be looking to increase programs and become a full member as our school community grows. SAIKAC offers its member schools a variety of athletic, artistic, and cultural events such as sports tournaments, spelling bees, and music festivals.

On **March 17-18, 2010**, KAUST Schools will be welcoming visitors from other SAIKAC member schools including international schools from Dhahran, Jeddah, Riyadh, and Yanbu. A total of 12 teams will visit KAUST for this wonderful community event.

A high standard for an event such as this can only be achieved with strong community support and involvement. We will need support for hospitality, scorekeeping, officiating, record keeping, supervision, and housing visitors. If you would like to get involved please e-mail me, Tarique AL-Iesa, at [tarique.aliesa@kaust.edu.sa](mailto:tarique.aliesa@kaust.edu.sa), or phone at 808-6442. You can also be supportive by just coming out, enjoying the interscholastic competition, and cheering on your home school.





**Support** our very own vet: Dr. Jaclean

**HOURS: Wednesdays, from 11 am-5 pm.** For appointments, call Dr. Jaclean Dadulla at **054 5489133** for an appointment.

She is in the self-standing building in the “middle” of Discovery Square until her own clinic near the community library is built.

What about  
**FRISBEE** in  
DUBAI ?



## **TRAVEL:**

From <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/diriyah>

Saad ibn Saud Palace

**Al-Diriyah** (Arabic: الدرعية; also spelled **Ad-Dir'iyah**, **Ad-Dar'iyah** or **Dir'aiyah**) is a town in Saudi Arabia located on the northwestern outskirts of the Saudi capital, Riyadh. Diriyah was the original home of the Saudi royal family, and served as the capital of the first Saudi dynasty from 1744 to 1818.

As of February 2009 and for at least the 6 months prior (already restricted access in March 2008), the Diriyah site has been closed to visitors, presumably for renovation work that appears to be extensive. Security guards at the site stated that it is likely to be closed for up to 2 years. As part of a larger scale plan part of the area near the sites main gate have been excavated and many column bases as well as drainage systems have been found.

The ruins of the old city of Diriyah lay on either side of the narrow valley known as Wadi Hanifa, which continues southwards through Riyadh and beyond. Consisting almost entirely of mud-brick structures, the ruins are divided into three districts, Ghussaibah, Al-Mulaybeed, and Turaif, set on top of hills overlooking the valley. Of the three, Turaif is the highest, and its bottom is easily accessible to tourists by foot. Part of the city wall, running along the edges of the wadi and also made of mud-bricks, still exists along with some short observation towers.

Some of the old city's historic structures:

- **Salwa Palace** It was the residence and first home of the Al Saud Amirs and Imams during the First Saudi State. It is considered the largest palace on the site, rising four stories high. It is composed of five main parts built at different consecutive periods of time. It was probably finished by Saud ibn Abdul Aziz ibn Muhammad ibn Saud, who was Imam from 1803 to 1814.
- **Saad bin Saud Palace** One of the largest palaces on the site, it is famous for its courtyard, which was used as a stable. The palace is completely restored and several stories high.
- **The Guest House and At-Turaif Bath House** The Guest House is a traditional building, and it consists of a number of small courtyards surrounded by rooms. The Bath House is famous for its different architectural styles and shows how the building was waterproofed by using different plasters. Both the Guest and Bath Houses were supplied with water from a well in the wadi.
- **Imam Mohammad bin Saud Mosque** This mosque was built during the reign of Imam Mohammad bin Saud. Sheik Mohammad bin Abdulwahab used to give lessons about his reformed movement of Islam in this mosque. It became a center for religious education. Students used to travel to it from all parts of the Arabian Peninsula.



## FOOD/RECIPES/HEALTH

iVillage's **Snack Swap** information about drinking **SPECIAL** coffees:

Long gone are the days when people routinely drank black coffee. It's astounding that many of us regularly guzzle 16- to 20-ounce coffee drinks every day -- sometimes two or more times per day! Down a 16-ounce caffe mocha and you just drank 300 calories -- 400 if you add whipped cream. Drink two of these each day, and you've spent one-third of your daily calorie budget! If plain black coffee isn't your cup of tea, try these ideas to downsize the calories, fat and sugar in your coffee drinks:

Ask for skim instead of whole milk and save 50 calories in most 16-ounce drinks.

1. Downsize to the smallest cup available. Cutting back from a 20-ounce to a 12-ounce cuts 100 calories.

2. Avoid whipped cream -- it tacks on 80 to 130 additional calories depending on the size and type of drink you order. The amount of added sugar in some coffee drinks is simply unbelievable. 33 grams (eight teaspoons of sugar) in a 16-ounce syrup-flavored latte, 50 grams (12 teaspoons of sugar) in a 16-ounce caramel mocha. Can you believe?

What's your **best choice**? A 16-ounce caffe Americano -- only 15 calories and no sugar.

# POTPOURRI

**Don't forget - only 4 more days** to write about that spacey object on display on the spine and send your description to me before the next Mini-Monday issue (out on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February)! I have received only 2 entries. Increase the competition -- please!

**JUST ANNOUNCED:** The winner of the on-line **Seed Fund Survey** is.....  
our very own **NEIGHBOR** in today's news: **Research Scientist Zhang Zhang**,  
**Division of Chemical and Life Sciences & Engineering.**  
**Congratulations Zhang!!!**

The 5 runner-up prizes of dinner for two are going to.....

Research Technician Qiang Zhang, Core Lab

Master Student Xuance Zhou, Mechanical Engineering

Master Student Burhannudin Sutisna, Chemical and Biological Engineering

Master Student Wail Bamhair, Electrical Engineering

Professor Boon S. Ooi, Electrical Engineering

### Kids programs: Weekly at the Harbor Library - REMINDER

**TOT Tuesdays:** Tuesday mornings, 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 for 1-3 year olds with moms or caregivers. Library staff will do stories & songs.

**Rhythm Time:** Friday mornings, 11:00 – 11:30 for 0-3 year. Session leader: Sheng Li.

**Sing with Mr. Jeremy:** temporarily cancelled - Thursday mornings, 11:00-11:45 for 3 year olds – 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. Come and sing songs and listen to stories from K4 teacher, Jeremy Occhipinti. Please suggest another day and time that works for you.



## PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: KAUST campus by night

Whether photography is your passion, your hobby, or just an occasional pastime, we invite you to participate in our first photo contest. The theme is **KAUST campus by night** !

Entries must be received by **Friday, 5 March 2010**, at 11:59 p.m. KSA time. Please **read the complete contest rules** before entering.

(go to <http://kcomm.wikispaces.com/photocontest>)

Submit your picture as an email attachment to:

[kaustphotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:kaustphotoclub@gmail.com)

Include in the email the photographer's name as you want it displayed, and your email and telephone contact information. **First prize:** an A3 print of your photo. Winning entries will be displayed on a club website and around campus.

## **Mommy/Daddy and Me Play Group for ages 0-3 years old!**

If you're looking for something to do with your son or daughter during the day, come and join our playgroup! This is a great way for your kids to socialize with other children the same age and to meet other moms and dads!

**Saturday, Monday and Wednesday's from 9:00 am -12:00 pm  
at the ECC 1/Island Oasis Center**

There are lots of toys and kids to play with, just come and have some fun!

Parent or nanny must stay with the kids; **this is a playgroup not a drop off.**

## **Contact Kanoo Travels "Salman Kanoo Travel" [travel@kaust.edu.sa](mailto:travel@kaust.edu.sa)**

Package travel deals are now on offer. Send an email to inquire about the details.

KAUST - India-Gt; KAUST - India-Kerala; KAUST - Kenya; KAUST - Lebanon; Kaust - Malaysia; KAUST - Thailand; KAUST - Egypt; KAUST - Sri Lanka



I received two very helpful replies to my question – comment – about finding TV shows before they started: Eman A. and Sherif M. - and **the COMMUNITY thanks you both!**

**TV guide** from : [http://www.osnetwork.com/ShowGuide/Online/Movies\\_en\\_gb.aspx](http://www.osnetwork.com/ShowGuide/Online/Movies_en_gb.aspx)

Regarding the TV guide, you can find the schedule of the channel you like on-line; I know it will be easier to have a booklet list all channels and the schedule, but I do not think this booklet exists.

If you are interested in the English channels, then I suggest the Showtime, Orbit, and MBC (2, Action, and Max). You can find the schedule of both Showtime and Orbit on [http://www.osnetwork.com/default\\_en\\_gb.aspx](http://www.osnetwork.com/default_en_gb.aspx) and that of MBC on [www.mbc.net](http://www.mbc.net)

For the Showtime and Orbit, I gave you the English version of the web site, but for the MBC, it will open in Arabic, but you will see on the top left-hand side the word "English," from there you can select the channel you wish (2, Action or Max).

The first in a series of **Cultural History events** took place on February 8 at the Community Library. Saudi Arabia, our host(ess), provided Ms. Lamees Basfar with abundant history, tradition, geography and cuisine to talk about with the many guests in attendance. Those guests were also treated to a variety of gifts to take home with them: wristbands, flags, pens, caps and edible treats as well.





# For Sale

Or “adoption”:



Dear KAUST Community (from Mashhoor B.):

This note will interest you if you are a pet lover or if you are planning on buying a pet.

My fiancée, Moudi, needs to part with her pet. She loves her cat dearly, but will no longer be able to take care of it (I am allergic). Therefore, she was wondering whether anyone in the KAUST Community would be interested in buying Meesha (3000 SR, including accessories).

However, there is a condition attached: Whoever buys Meesha MUST be currently (or will shortly be) living in KAUST housing and NOT in Jeddah. Moudi would also like to interview whoever is interested in buying Meesha and get to know them in person. (She wants to make sure that Meesha will be taken care of.)

She (the cat) is highly adorable, lovable, clean and polite. She is the ideal pet if you are a moody person. Meesha can be playful when you want her to play, or can just purr and cuddle all day, depending on the way you treat her.

Meesha is easy to feed: she loves plain cooked chicken and canned tuna from the human food category, and all types of cat food.

If you are interested in “adopting” Meesha, please feel free to reply to me ([mbbaeshen@gmail.com](mailto:mbbaeshen@gmail.com), or [mashhoor.baeshen@kaust.edu.sa](mailto:mashhoor.baeshen@kaust.edu.sa)), or contact my fiancée, Moudi Al-Ghashyan, via her email: [moudi988@gmail.com](mailto:moudi988@gmail.com) if you would like to have any additional information regarding the cat.



**Baby isn't a baby any more:**

Send inquiries to my personal e-mail: [cherinefayad@hotmail.com](mailto:cherinefayad@hotmail.com)  
or call me on my mobile: **0503836374**



Evenflo Exersaucer  
**Excellent condition**  
**800SR** (original price  
1300SR)



Baby crib with the mattress and all the accessories in the photo, in addition to bed covers, pillows & pillow cases. **Excellent condition, 800SR** (original price 1600SR);

Chest of drawers, changing table and bathtub all in one. **Excellent condition 500SR** (original price 1000SR)



Chicco Highchair  
**Excellent condition 800SR** (original price 1500SR)



Chicco Walker  
**Excellent condition 200SR** (original price 400SR)



Bebe Pod  
**Excellent condition 200SR** (original price 400SR)



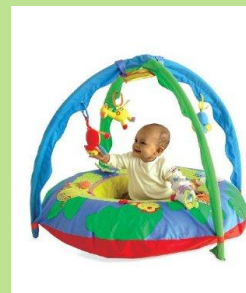
Chicco Bicycle 4 in one  
**Excellent condition 400SR** (original price 750SR)



Graco Travel System, dark grey color.  
**Excellent condition 800SR** (original price 1500SR)



ELC Sit-Me-Up Cosy  
**Excellent condition 150SR** (original price 299SR)



Mothercare Jungle mat  
**Excellent condition 250SR** (original price 500SR)